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Rural District of Amesbury

ANNUAL REPORT

on

The Health of the Area

and



The Work of the Public Health Department

for the year

1961



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RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY

East Wilts United Districts (M.O.H.) Office,
1, The Green,
Marlborough.

Telephone 487.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and Ministry of Health Circular 1/62. The Report should deal with the sanitary circumstances, sanitary administration and vital statistics of the area, and particular information has been requested concerning water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal and the inspection of registered common lodging houses.

The post of Medical Officer of Health was unavoidably vacant during the period covered by this report, but my colleague, Dr. F. J. G. Lishman, kindly made himself available for consultation whenever necessary. The Report, therefore, for 1961, has been assembled in the same form as previous Annual Reports, is brief and confined to facts.

The principal vital statistics calculated compare satisfactorily with those for the country as a whole, but I must draw the Council's attention to the fact that vital statistics based on small numbers such as are inevitable with relatively small individual authorities can be quite misleading. Ministry of Health Circular 42/51 referred specifically to this matter. The vital statistics which could readily be obtained by combining the figures from each of the constituent authorities comprising the East Wilts United Districts, with a total population approaching 60,000, would be much more satisfactory in this respect.

Facts relevant to the specific sanitary matters mentioned above have been given by the Senior Public Health Inspector in his contribution to this Report, and it is not my intention to comment on these points on this occasion.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. I. LOCKETT,

*Medical Officer of Health
East Wilts United Districts.*

8th June, 1962.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	H. I. LOCKETT, M.B., D.P.H. (from 1st March, 1962).
Senior Public Health Inspector	I. L. FISHER, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I. Certified Meat and Food Inspector.
Additional Public Health Inspector	R. WILKINSON, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
Clerical Assistant and Trainee Public Health Inspector	R. L. BEESE
Rodent Operator	R. H. COOMBES
Clerk (M.O.H. office)	MISS G. M. BOSWELL

The Medical Officer of Health also holds the appointments of Medical Officer of Health to the Rural District Councils of Marlborough & Ramsbury and Pewsey and the Borough of Marlborough and is under the control and direction of the East Wilts Combined Sanitary Districts Joint M.O.H. Committee; he also performs certain duties for the Wiltshire County Council.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	63,455
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	...	...	17
Population, Registrar General's mid-year estimate	...	...	...	...	...	24,770
Number of inhabited houses or flats	...	...	...	...	...	4,235
Number of houses or flats owned by the Council	...	...	...	...	...	1,268
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£338,619
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,385

VITAL STATISTICS

				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births	...	...	...	298	255	553
Legitimate	...	...	...	293	247	540
Illegitimate	...	...	...	5	8	13
Still Births	...	...	...	2	4	6
Deaths of Infants under one year of age	...	...	...	7	5	12
Deaths from all causes	...	...	...	77	60	137
				<i>Crude</i>	<i>Adjusted</i>	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	22.3	24.8	
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	5.5	8.8	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	...	...		10.7	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...		21.7	
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	...		23.3	

Comparisons, 1961

	<i>Amesbury R.D.</i>	<i>Wiltshire County</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	24.8	18.7	17.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population	8.8	10.6	12.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	21.7	19.4	21.4

CAUSES OF DEATHS, 1961

	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic diseases ...	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ...	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—
8	Measles ...	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach ...	—	1	1
11	„ „ lung, bronchus ...	7	2	9
12	„ „ breast ...	—	2	2
13	„ „ uterus ...	—	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	9	3	12
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	—
16	Diabetes ...	—	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	5	11	16
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	12	5	17
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	3	4
20	Other heart disease ...	4	12	16
21	Other circulatory disease ...	4	3	7
22	Influenza ...	4	—	4
23	Pneumonia ...	3	2	5
24	Bronchitis ...	4	1	5
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	—	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	2	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations ...	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	11	8	19
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	6	—	6
34	All other accidents ...	1	1	2
35	Suicide ...	2	3	5
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—
Totals ...		77	60	137

IMMUNISATION STATISTICS, 1961

(1) Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation

<i>Year of Birth</i>		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1952-56	1947-51	Total all ages
Primary immunisation completed during 1961	Diph.	145	335	52	24	6	57	4	623
	Wh/c.	144	332	47	23	6	22	3	577
Reinforcing injections administered during 1961	Diph.	—	5	91	25	21	273	10	425
	Wh/c.	—	3	78	24	14	62	6	187

(2) Smallpox Vaccination

<i>Age Group</i>	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over	Total, all ages
Vaccinations	352	23	21	18	18	432
Re-vaccinations	1	—	9	13	56	79

(3) Poliomyelitis Immunisation

<i>Born</i>	1943-61	1933-42	Before 1933 but not yet 40 years old	Others	Total, all ages
2nd injection	679	132	305	22	1138
3rd injection	691	119	534	11	1345
4th injection	1200	—	—	—	1200

(I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the statistics concerning immunisation work carried out in the Rural District during the year).

RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY

Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector for the year 1961

Redworth House,

Amesbury.

Telephone 3255.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my thirteenth Annual Report on the activities of the Public Health Department for 1961.

Once again I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and co-operation given during the year.

It also gives me pleasure to place on record my appreciation of the members of my staff for their ready assistance in carrying out the duties of the Department, and of the assistance afforded by the Engineer and Surveyor in the compilation of the information on water supplies, drainage and sewerage and refuse collection and disposal, and to express my thanks to colleagues in other Departments for their willing co-operation at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. L. FISHER,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Number and Nature of Visits or Inspections during 1961

GENERAL SANITATION

Number of Inspections re Water Supply	...	...	...	182
Number of Inspections re Drainage of Property	...	...	...	786
Number of Inspections re Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	39
Number of Inspections of Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	2
Number of Inspections of Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	77
Number of Inspections under Factories Act	...	...	...	29
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	1
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	...	18
Number of Inspections of Licensed Premises	...	...	...	4
Number of Inspections re Refuse Collections and Disposal	...	...	...	6
Number of Inspections under Noise Abatement Act, 1960	...	...	...	19
Number of Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	30
Number of Inspections under Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957	...	...	...	17
Number of Inspections of Schools	...	...	...	9
Number of Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	184
Number of Visits re Sampling of Water Supplies	...	...	...	172
Number of Visits re Sampling of Sewage Effluent	...	...	...	22

HOUSING

Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Act	...	...	82
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspections)	...	...	92
			<hr/> 174
Number of Houses inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	107
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspections)	...	...	613
			<hr/> 720
Number of Houses inspected re Overcrowding	...	...	6
Number of Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	162
Number of Houses Inspected re Verminous Conditions	...	...	6
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspections)	...	...	3
			<hr/> 9
Number of Houses Inspected under Rent Act	...	...	2
Number of Property Owners/Agents and Builders interviewed	...	...	310

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	12
Number of Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	168

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Number of Visits to Poultry Packing Station	...	...	...	203
Number of Visits to Knackers Yard	...	...	...	14
Number of Visits to Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	6
Number of Visits to Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	2
Number of Visits to Grocers	...	...	...	41
Number of Visits to Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	37
Number of Visits to Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	15
Number of Visits to Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	15
Number of Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers	1
Number of Miscellaneous Food Visits	23

Grand Total	<hr/> 3207 <hr/>
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FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

Inspections of the factories within the district have shown that conditions are generally satisfactory. Any defects found were of a minor nature, and by the end of the year most had been remedied as the result of informal action. It was not necessary for the Council to serve any Notice to rectify any contraventions of the Acts.

The following is a list of factories in the district:—

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	7
Engineering, including Garages	...	...	...	26
Electricity Generating	...	...	...	1
Joinery, woodworking	...	...	...	9
Testing of Flow Meters	...	...	...	1
Milk Pasteurising	...	...	...	1
Laundering	...	...	...	2
Corn Milling	...	...	...	1
Manufacture of Explosives	...	...	...	2
Vehicle Painting	...	...	...	1
Tailoring	...	...	...	2
Aircraft Testing	...	...	...	1
Instrument Repairs	...	...	...	1
Fibre Glass and Resin Moulding	...	...	...	2
Cine Film Camera Testing	...	...	...	1
Cinematograph Film Manufacture	...	...	...	1
Oil Gas	...	...	...	1
Radio and Electrical Equipment Repairs	...	...	...	1
Fruit Juice and Bottle Washing	...	...	...	1
Upholstery and Furniture Repairs	...	...	...	1
Packing of Plastic Products	...	...	...	1
Poultry Processing	...	...	...	1
Knackers Yards	...	...	...	1
				66

OUTWORKERS

The number of persons in the district engaged on outwork remains very small. These are engaged in the manufacture of knitted wear by firms situated outside the area, and their names and addresses are notified to the Council by the appropriate authorities. Inspections were made of the premises, but no action was found to be necessary.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

During the year the Council reviewed the existing refuse collection service, which provides for a once weekly collection in the larger villages and a once fortnightly collection in the smaller ones, and decided to implement a weekly collection service in all the villages. To enable this to be done, a new freighter is to be purchased and additional labour is to be recruited. It is expected that the new service will come into operation in November, 1962.

All refuse collected in the district is disposed of at the Council's Refuse Tip at Porton Firs, and the separation of salvageable materials, such as paper, metal and rags, is carried out there. These materials, together with salvaged waste paper, have been sold to contractors, and the revenue so gained has continued to be very satisfactory in spite of the reductions in the prices obtainable for waste paper.

HOUSING

There has been no significant decrease in the demand for Council houses, and the Council has been actively engaged throughout the year in acquiring land on which to erect more houses.

By the end of the year all preparatory work on the pilot scheme to erect at Durrington a unit of one-bedroom bungalows for aged persons, together with a warden's house, had been completed, and it is anticipated that work on this project will be commenced early in 1962. The Council also had under consideration the provision of accommodation in Shrewton for elderly persons, and negotiations for the purchase of land for this purpose were commenced.

During the year under review, 82 Council houses were completed.

The number of dwellings erected by private enterprise has continued to increase, and during the year 107 houses or bungalows were completed, whilst a further 113 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

There was a steady flow of applications for Discretionary and Standard Grants towards the cost of the improvement and modernisation of older houses, and during the year Discretionary Grants amounting to £8,403 were made in respect of the 27 dwellings where such works were completed. A further 9 dwellings were improved with the aid of Standard Grants, these grants totalling £1,045.

The following table shows the action taken by the Department under the Housing & Public Health Acts during the year:—

(i) Inspected for housing defects under Public Health Act	...	82
(ii) Inspected for housing defects under Housing Act	... ..	107
(iii) Number of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	... ..	6
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	... ..	135
(v) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	... ..	69

Action under Statutory Powers

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12, Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	—
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal Notices		
(a) By owners	... ..	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	... ..	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act

(i) Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	—
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal Notices		
(a) By owners	... ..	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	... ..	—

C. Proceedings under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and Section 16, Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of Demolition Orders made	... ..	18
(ii) Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders	...	*24
(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted	... ..	—
(iv) Number of Undertakings completed	... ..	—

D. Proceedings under Sections 42, 43, 46 and 48, Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of houses in Clearance Area upon which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	7
(ii) Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders	...	—
(iii) Number of houses in Clearance Area which have been retained as temporary accommodation	... ..	—

E. Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936, Section 3, Housing Act, 1949, Section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and Sections 17, 18 and 27, Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	... ..	1
(ii) Number of dwellings closed as result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners	... ..	1
(iii) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit	... ..	—

F. Proceedings under Section 76, Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during year	...	3
(ii) Number of cases of overcrowding abated during year	...	2

* Includes 6 houses demolished voluntarily or in anticipation of Demolition Orders.

RODENT CONTROL

The control measures recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food are closely followed by the Rodent Operator under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

The services of the Rodent Operator, which are shared with two neighbouring authorities, have once again proved adequate, and the systematic survey of the district which was carried out throughout the year showed the general situation to be satisfactory. All complaints received were dealt with promptly and were found to be mostly of a minor nature.

The following table sets out the work carried out by the Rodent Operator during the year:—

	<i>Type of Property</i>				
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>				(5) <i>Agric- ultural</i>
	(1) <i>Local Auth- ority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other</i>	(4) <i>Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)</i>	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	16	4221	166	4403	127
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	—	73	23	96	3
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat					
Major	—	—	—	—	1
Minor	—	71	18	89	2
Ship Rat					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	2	5	7	—
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	3	860	60	923	47
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat					
Major	1	—	—	1	—
Minor	2	52	2	56	10
Ship Rat					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	4	—	4	—

	<i>Type of Property</i>				
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>				(5) <i>Agric- ultural</i>
	(1) <i>Local Auth- ority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other</i>	(4) <i>Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)</i>	
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	—	—	—
5. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections	13	951	87	1051	53
6. Number of infested properties (in Sections 2, 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	3	90	21	114	3
7. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	13	108	24	145	6
8. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
10. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
11. Number of “Block” control schemes carried out	N I L				

WATER SUPPLY

Regional Water Supply

The laying of water mains to serve the parishes in the Avon Valley was carried out during the year, and the completion of this work has signalled the achievement of the Council's aim to provide mains water to all parishes in the district. Also, work was commenced on the laying of the 9" diameter link main from Boscombe Down to Durrington.

The work of constructing the reservoir at Castle Barn continued throughout the year and was nearing completion at the end of the year.

The Council's scheme to supply water to the War Department at Knighton Down was approved by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government, and authority was given for the sinking and test pumping of one of the proposed boreholes. Following the satisfactory completion of this work, the Council applied for, and received, the Ministry's consent to proceed with the sinking of the second borehole for this scheme. This borehole was due to be commenced early in 1962.

20 water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and all of these proved satisfactory.

3 water samples were submitted for chemical examination, and all proved satisfactory. A copy of one of the reports is given below:—

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	Clear, colourless water: no deposit	
<i>Chemical</i>	...	...	...	...	Parts per million	
Reaction	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH	7.3
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in three hours at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.003
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	17
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	220
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	175
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	45
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
<i>Opinion:</i> Satisfactory.						

Bulford and Durrington

This supply has continued to work satisfactorily during the year.

Small extensions have been made to service properties on new housing estates.

15 water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and all of these proved satisfactory. 1 sample was submitted for chemical examination, and a copy of the report is given below:—

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	Clear, colourless water: no deposit	
<i>Chemical</i>	...	...	...	...	Parts per million	
Reaction	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH	7.1
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in three hours at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.003
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	25
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	7.5
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	265
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	210
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	55
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
<i>Opinion:</i> Satisfactory.						

Shrewton

This supply has continued to work satisfactorily during the year.

Work was commenced on laying the mains to connect this supply to the new reservoir at Castle Barn and on linking the high pressure main at Maddington with the lower pressure main at London Road to improve the supply to this area of Shrewton.

15 water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all of these proved satisfactory. 1 sample was submitted for chemical examination, and a copy of the report is given below:—

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	Clear, colourless water:	no deposit
Chemical	...	...	...	...	...	Parts per million
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH 7.3
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in three hours at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.007
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	18
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	225
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	170
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	55
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Opinion: Satisfactory.						

Other Supplies

The undermentioned parishes obtain a supply of water from services not belonging to the Council:—

- Cholderton (Cholderton Water Company).
- Tilshead and Figheldean (supplies taken in bulk from the War Department).
- Wilsford-cum-Lake, Woodford and Durnford (parts of) obtain a supply of water from Private Estate supplies.

Samples of water taken from each of the above supplies have been found to be of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

The following table gives details of the estimated number of dwelling houses and caravans and the estimated population in each parish supplied from public water mains. This table does not take into account Service personnel and premises occupied by them, nor does it include properties obtaining piped water from Private Estate supplies.

There are no public standpipes in the district.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Estimated Total Population</i>	<i>Estimated number of Dwelling Houses and Caravans connected direct to Public Piped Water Supplies</i>	<i>Estimated popu- lation supplied from Public Water Mains direct to Houses and Caravans</i>
Allington	342	84	294
Amesbury	4,808	1,361	4,738
Bulford	640	183	640
Cholderton	226	69	226*
Durnford	463	—	—
Durrington	2,788	798	2,781
Figcheldean	483	110	441*
Idmiston	1,120	303	1,030
Milston	210	42	147*
Newton Tony	354	61	213
Orcheston	213	53	182
Shrewton	1,726	465	1,627
Tilshead	340	97	340*
Wilsford-cum-Lake	216	—	—
Winterbourne	1,134	287	1,001
Winterbourne Stoke	210	48	172
Woodford	451	—	—
Totals ...	15,724	3,961	13,832

* Includes population supplied from mains owned by Cholderton Water Company or by Government Departments.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Amesbury

This scheme has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

Samples of the effluent have been taken regularly and all have proved satisfactory.

Bulford and Durrington

This scheme, which also serves the military area at Bulford Camp, has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

Samples of the effluent have been taken regularly and all have proved satisfactory.

Shrewton

The work of laying sewers and constructing the main disposal works and pumping station was completed in March, 1961, and since that date some progress has been made with the connection of premises to these sewers.

Figcheldean and Milston

Following the approval of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government to the Council's proposals for sewerage these parishes, the Council invited tenders for this work and it was commenced towards the end of the year. It is estimated that this scheme will be nearing completion by the end of 1962.

Other Schemes

It is the Council's aim to provide public sewerage systems in all the parishes in the district, and its Consulting Engineers have been instructed to prepare suitable schemes. At the moment, the proposed scheme to serve the Bourne Valley is given top priority, and preparatory work on this scheme has continued throughout the year. In due course this will be followed by the scheme for Tilshead and the remaining parishes.

CARAVAN SITES

There is still a great demand for the use of land as caravan sites in the district, particularly in the parish of Amesbury.

Towards the end of the year, planning permission was given to the proposed use of land at Porton Road, Amesbury, as a site for 89 caravans, and this, it is hoped, will help considerably to meet the demand. In addition, planning permission was granted, and a site licence was issued, in respect of land to be used for the stationing of 45 caravans at The Bustard, Shrewton.

A number of site licences were issued during the year in respect of smaller sites catering for between 1 and 15 caravans.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

There has been no change in the milk supply to the district during the year. The bulk of the milk consumed is Pasteurised and is processed at, and supplied from, the milk factory at Amesbury. In one or two parishes there is still a considerable demand for Designated Raw Milks.

Samples of milk have been taken regularly from all the registered distributors in the district, including producer/retailers. A total of 152 samples were submitted for the statutory tests and for biological examination.

The following table shows the number of samples submitted for each examination, together with the results:—

<i>Designated Raw Milk</i>			<i>Biological Examination</i>			<i>Pasteurised Milk</i>		
<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>
52	44	8	48	48	—	52	48	4

In addition, 54 individual cow samples were taken following a routine sample being Ring Test + + +. 5 of these samples were reported as being Ring Test +, but the biological report which followed stated that no Tuberculosis or Brucella Abortus was seen.

When unsatisfactory reports were received in respect of samples of raw milk, the producers were interviewed and advised on methods to ensure cleanliness in production, and repeat samples proved satisfactory except in one case. Samples taken from this particular producer repeatedly failed the statutory test, and it was therefore necessary to inform the Milk Advisory Officer.

Investigations made into the cause of samples of pasteurised milk failing the statutory test showed that this was due to minor mechanical defects in the plant. These defects had already been detected and rectified by the firm.

During the year, 84 samples of bottle washings were submitted for tests, and the majority were found to be satisfactory. Following the receipt of unsatisfactory reports, further visits were made to ascertain the cause.

At the end of 1960 the Council resolved to institute legal proceedings against a firm for selling a bottle of milk containing a snail. The case was heard early in 1961, when the firm pleaded guilty and the Magistrates imposed a fine of £5.

In October, 1961, the Council entered into a scheme with the Wiltshire County Council for the delegation to the Council of the powers, duties and functions of the County Council as Licensing Authority under The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960. The County Council will, however, continue to exercise the functions of the Licensing Authority under the Regulations for all purposes in connection with the pasteurising dairy situated in the district.

There is only one Registered Dairy in the district. The number of Registered Milk Distributors and Dealers licensed to sell milk under special designations is as follows:—

Registered Milk Distributors in district	...	...	...	...	3
Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised Milk (Pre-Packed)	...	...	...	...	6
Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	2

Slaughter Houses

No slaughtering of animals for human consumption takes place within the district, and so the butchers obtain their supplies of meat from the Abattoir in the City of Salisbury, where excellent facilities exist for the slaughter, dressing and inspection of all animals intended for this purpose. It is very seldom that a request is received for a further inspection to be made of any meat delivered to the shops in the district, and any subsequent action found necessary is invariably due to a condition which has occurred since the initial inspection of the carcase was made.

There is one licensed Knackers Yard in the district, and periodic visits have shown the general condition to be satisfactory.

Daily visits have been made to the Poultry Packing Station at Amesbury for the purpose of inspecting the poultry killed, prepared and packed at this establishment. However, the firm discontinued this business towards the end of the year.

A second, but much smaller, establishment is in use at Figheldean, and regular visits were made to this.

Food Premises

The general standard of food premises in the district remains satisfactory, and in a number of instances considerable improvements have been effected.

The number and types of food premises in the area are as follows:—

Hotels and Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	37
Grocers	...	...	...	...	39
Bakers	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	8
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	9
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	17
Greengrocery	...	...	...	...	2
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	3
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	1
Poultry Packing Stations	...	...	...	...	2

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

There is no manufacture of ice-cream in the district. Routine inspections of the premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream have shown that the Regulations are being complied with.

The number and types of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows:—

Storage and/or Sale of Ice-Cream	...	...	...	96
Sausage Making	...	...	...	8

Meat and Other Foods Condemned during 1961

The quantity of meat and other food condemned during 1961 as being unfit for human consumption is given below:—

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	88 lbs.
Chickens	...	...	...	...	...	2387
Hens	...	...	...	...	...	1484
Cocks	...	...	...	...	...	107
Capons	...	...	...	...	...	15
Turkeys	...	...	...	...	...	1

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

The periodic inspections made of premises licensed by the Council for the boiling of waste foods have revealed that the requirements of the Order are being observed. The use of this type of food for animals is confined mainly to the smaller establishments, the larger ones preferring to use prepared meal.

At the end of the year there were in the district 13 premises licensed under the above Order.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1961 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1—*Inspections* for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	66	29	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	66	29	—	—

2—Cases in which *Defects* were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	3	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT
(Sections 110 and 111)
NIL RETURN

